

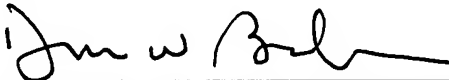
Remarks

The Examiner has rejected the claims with primary reliance being had on the Emmerson et al. article. The Examiner will observe that the authors of this article correspond to the herein named inventors except for M. Ibsen who is not an inventor of the invention set forth in the claims. Consequently, the Emmerson et al. article does not qualify as prior art as prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102 (a) nor under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) since it was not published more than one year prior to the filing date of the PCT application upon which the present application is based. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, request is made for timely issuance of a notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 1/8/07


Anthony M. Hoehler

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